

ISICSB MISSION

"The board shall develop, implement, and oversee policy, operations, and fiscal components of communications interoperability efforts at the state and local level and coordinate with similar efforts at the federal level, with the ultimate objective of developing and overseeing the operation of a statewide integrated public safety communications interoperability system."

ISICSB VISION

"All emergency response entities in and around Iowa can access interoperable communications systems."

Regional Interoperability Committee Meetings

- RIC 1**—2nd Tuesday of every month @ 3:00 PM
- RIC 2**—4th Tuesday of every month @ 2:00 PM
- RIC 3**—3rd Tuesday of every month @ 10:00 AM
- RIC 4**—4th Thursday of every month @ 10:30 AM
- RIC 5**—4th Tuesday of every month @ 1:00 PM
- RIC 6**—1st Thursday of every month @ 10:30 AM

APRIL HAPPENINGS

View calendar [HERE](#)

Calendar Web Link:

<https://isicb.iowa.gov/events/>

THANK YOU, DISPATCHERS!

NATIONAL PUBLIC SAFETY
TELECOMMUNICATORS WEEK
April 11 - 17, 2021



Note from the Technology Committee Chair



As the ISICSB Technology Committee Chair, I would like to update you on the Committee's recent and ongoing work.

In 2021 the Technology Committee continues to work on those items which are currently associated with the ISICS P-25 platform or have the potential to be. The LTE deployable policy is a critical work in progress as it is designed to protect the ISICS P-25 LMR system from potential RF interference issues. Although there are federal guidelines to protect from this, the Technology Committee believes that adding ISICS guidelines would clarify that the LMR platform should be safeguarded at a State level.

Although the ISICS P-25 LMR platform is a robust system, additional topics are being addressed to enhance the overall platform. The ICS-217A document lists the minimum interoperable channels from VHF through the 700-800 MHz band from the NIFOG handbook. Also, the ICS-217A document has had additions made to it over the years, including conventional Scene of Action channels in the 700 MHz band.

The ISICS Technology Committee is currently researching the possibility of adding subscriber unit IDs that can be used in mobile and portable devices on the 700 MHz conventional P-25 Scene of Action channels. This will help users identify those devices on scene and deregistered from the ISICS P-25 LMR platform. The Committee also continues to work on the inclusion of 800 MHz analog channels in conjunction with the Region 15 Regional Planning Committee (800 RPC). The expectation is that a minimum of 3 channel pairs can be obtained with the potential for 11 channel pairs with associated guidelines for using such channels.

Previously, the Air-to-Ground channels in the 700 MHz band were thoroughly reviewed for the potential of regionalizing those channels. After further research and input from stakeholders, it was decided that doing so would not be in the users' best interest. Those channels will soon be added to the ICS-217A document. The ISICSMC12-B policy oversees the ICS-217A document. This policy is currently out for public comment as it was updated from an earlier version. The Technology Committee believes this update was needed to tighten up the wording and clarify its overall purpose. This policy is in place to allow the ISICS Technology Committee to make changes as necessary to the ICS-217A procedure without going through lengthy review periods. As I have often stated to Committee members in the past, "You don't get to vote on Ohm's Law." Technology does not have a comment period, and when it is needed, it is needed NOW.

The ISICS Technology Committee encourages stakeholders to join our calls anytime they can. We welcome feedback, topic suggestions, and stakeholder input. The Committee meets on the 1st Tuesday of every month @ 1000 and the 4th Thursday of every month @ 1330.

**Patrick Updike—Iowa Department of Corrections
Communications Technician
patrick.updike@iowa.gov**

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENTS

***** Be on the lookout for more information regarding a virtual COML course tentatively scheduled for July *****

- ◆ All future ISICSB meetings will be held via GoTo Meeting only until further notice [JOIN MEETING](#)
- ◆ If you would like to join one of the Regional Interoperability Committees, click [HERE](#)
- ◆ Announcement for current and future FirstNet Users and those with questions regarding FirstNet [READ MORE](#)

***** Click [HERE](#) to view the March 11, 2021, ISICSB Board Meeting *****

Web Link: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iVxZPv_EgXM

***** Click [HERE](#) to read the March 11, 2021, ISICSB Board Meeting Minutes*****

Web Link: <https://isicb.iowa.gov/document/2020-01-14-isicb-meeting-minutes-draft-board>

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Public Safety Spotlight:

Daniel Schaffer, Chief—Denison Police Department



Chief Daniel Schaffer was born and raised in Lake City, Iowa. He began his law enforcement career in 1977 and has worked for the Lohrville, Lake City, Carroll, and Denison Police Departments. Chief Schaffer currently serves as the Chief of Police in Denison and manages the operations of the County Public Safety Access Point (PSAP). He also served with the Iowa State Patrol from 1988 to 2016 in various duty assignments throughout western Iowa. Chief Schaffer had the opportunity to serve in several specialized areas with the State Patrol, including Accident Reconstructionist, Tactical Teams, Field Training, and instructing a variety of topics.

Chief Schaffer has worked many years on the enforcement team assigned to RAGBRAI and met and worked with agencies across Iowa. He was last stationed in Mason City, IA, as the District Commander in Post 8. He currently sits on the Iowa Statewide Interoperable Communications System Board (ISICSB) as a board member representing Municipal Police Departments.

Chief Schaffer is married to his wife Shelley and has a home on an acreage near Lake City, Iowa, where they plan to retire to in several years. They have three daughters and two sons.

***** If you would like to nominate someone to be featured in our Public Safety Spotlight, please email Hollie Davidson @ hdavidso@dps.state.ia.us *****

We would like to invite all personnel using the ISICS radio system to update your contact information by following the link listed below. This will help improve our communication with users when a system issue or maintenance arises in your affected area. Click [HERE](#)

Note from the SWIC



Greetings! It has been an exciting month for interoperability in Iowa. As you may have heard, the final system acceptance of the Iowa Statewide Interoperable Communications System (ISICS) was completed in early April. I want to thank everyone that has contributed to the development, deployment, and implementation of ISICS.

The adoption of a new policy for 700 MHz conventional air to ground channels and an update to ISICS Standard 1.5.2 add additional resources and guidance for interoperability in those scenarios. I want to thank everyone that contributed to the development of that policy and standard. Each involved an exceptional amount of time and effort from stakeholders in all disciplines in public safety in Iowa, and those contributions will help make those situations safer for responders.

Additionally, the credentialing of Ms. Kim Kohl as an Incident Tactical Dispatcher and Mr. Rick Mortenson as a Communications Unit Leader Trainer are significant steps for us. They enhance our operational readiness and add long-term capability for training new personnel in an all-hazards environment. ~ **Chris Maiers, SWIC**

ISICS standardized interoperability guide card now available

Through user feedback, the Operations Committee identified a need for a standardized interoperability guide card to assist end-users with navigating ISICS interoperability talkgroups and various conventional interoperability channels used throughout the state of Iowa. On the front side of the card, users will find a map of the interoperability regions and a color-coded list of the statewide and regional ISICS interoperability talkgroups for each region. The front side also contains lists of conventional interoperability channels used in the state.

The backside of the card includes a reference guide that is separated into three areas. The first area provides a guide on decoding standardized talkgroup and channel names. Another area contains an alphabetized list of Iowa Counties and their associated county number and region where they are located. This list is color-coordinated to match the map of interoperability regions and corresponding talkgroups on the guide card's front side.

Lastly, there is a cross-reference guide for previous channels and talkgroup names. The current name is listed along with names previously used for the same talkgroup or channel. This list can be used to avoid confusion when radios are programmed with outdated information and until the programming can be brought current.

The ISICS Interoperability Guide Card is being provided in electronic format to all agencies. The intention is that agencies can choose to print the guide card on their own in a size they prefer. It is recommended that all agencies make this guide card available to all responders and print copies for all vehicles. Click [HERE](#) to print the visor card.

The image displays the ISICS Interoperability Guide Card, which is divided into three main sections:

- Conventional Channels:** A table listing various channels such as 1500, 1501, 1502, etc., with their corresponding frequencies and names.
- Regional & Statewide Interoperability Talkgroups:** A map of Iowa divided into six regions (1-6) with a color-coded list of talkgroups for each region.
- Reference Guide:** A section containing three sub-tables: "Decoding Talkgroup and Channel Names", "Iowa Counties" (listing county numbers and regions), and "Cross-Reference Guide" (listing previous and current names for channels and talkgroups).

ISICS/ISICSB User News



New ISICS Users

- ♦ Butler County
- ♦ Jo Daviess County, Illinois
- ♦ Johnson County (update)
- ♦ Marion County EMA
- ♦ Plymouth County

New Approved ISICS Standards

- ♦ [Standard 1.5.2](#)—Air Ambulance Scene Flight Landing Zone Coordination
- ♦ [700 MHz Air to Ground Policy](#)

Thank You, Dispatchers!!!

Dispatchers are always there to answer the call, providing an indispensable service 24 hours a day, seven days a week, 365 days a year. Dispatchers are the unsung heroes of public safety. Citizens don't see you on the front line of a fire or performing CPR on a crash victim. In fact, they won't see you at all. When there is an emergency they will see, however, all your behind-the-scenes hard work pay off.

You are the connection between the sheriff's deputy, first-responders and the crash, the calming voice on the other end of a 911 call, and the link between a would-be deadly disaster and a life-saving rescue. You provide that communications hub for emergency responses in Iowa. It takes an exceptional and talented person to be the calm, collected voice in the middle of catastrophe. As a Public Safety Dispatcher, you play that vital role in keeping our deputies, first responders and citizens safe across the state of Iowa.

April 11 through April 17, 2021 is National Public Safety Telecommunications Week, and this is the week for our community to say thank you for your service.

On behalf of ISICSB, we would like to say thank you for all your hard work and dedication to the community. You are and always will be our first line of defense in protecting and helping the citizens of Iowa.

THANK YOU
DISPATCHERS!

THE UNSEEN HEROES OF PUBLIC SAFETY

THE GOLD LINE LIES BETWEEN THE BLUE AND RED.

They are always heard but rarely seen.

They are the heroes behind the scenes.

The calm voice in the dark.

National Public Safety Telecommunications Week

To Join ISICS

For more info about joining ISICS click [HERE](#) or go to the following:

Web Link: <https://isicb.iowa.gov/iowa-statewide-interoperable-communications-system-isics>

To start the process to JOIN ISICS click [HERE](#) or go to the following:

Web Link: <https://www.jotform.com/isicb/Join-ISICS>

If you need assistance or have questions regarding the ISICS joining process, please contact SWIC Maiers at maiers@dps.state.ia.us.

Recent News



Rick Mortenson Receives COML "Train the Trainer" Certification

ISICSB would like to announce that DPS Communications Specialist II Rick Mortenson recently completed all requirements of the FEMA Emergency Management Institute *Communications Unit Leader, Trainer the Trainer* Course. This certification allows Rick to become one of three instructors statewide for the National Incident Management System (NIMS) All-Hazards COML course. Congratulations, Rick, on this outstanding achievement!



Kim Kohl Receives INTD Certification

ISICSB would like to announce that DPS Communications Specialist II Kim Kohl recently completed all requirements of the *Incident Tactical Dispatcher Course (INTD)*. An INTD is a specially trained individual qualified to operate in a command post, base camp, or at the incident scene in support of a specific incident or tactical operation. Congratulations, Kim, on this outstanding achievement!

New Department of Public Safety ISICSB Representative Named

Lieutenant Heath Hove has been named the new ISICS Board member to represent the Iowa Department of Public Safety. Welcome to the ISICSB Lt. Hove!

Resources

Documents

- ♦ [2020 ISICSB Report to Legislature](#)

Web Link: <https://isicb.iowa.gov/document/2020-isicb-report-legis-draft>

- ♦ [Approved ISICS Standards](#)

Web Link: <https://isicb.iowa.gov/resources/policies/isics-standards>

- ♦ [2020—2023 Iowa Statewide Communications Plan \(SCIP\)](#)

Web Link: https://isicb.iowa.gov/sites/default/files/documents/2019/12/2019-2020_iowa_scip_11.18.19_draft_1315.pdf

- ♦ [ISICS Standard 1.5.0—Regional & Statewide Interoperability Talkgroups](#)

Web Link: <https://youtu.be/wpS3YSaIZMk>

- ♦ [StatusBoard End User Training](#)

Web Link: https://youtu.be/Ar_JiLca3EI

YouTube Videos

- ♦ [Iowa Total Interoperability](#)

Web Link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SoAe5bo94mE&feature=youtu.be>

- ♦ [ISICS Technology](#)

Web Link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6Kr1CF7xYwo&feature=youtu.be>

- ♦ [ISICS System Live Demo](#)

Web Link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mMQfWxJfQF8&feature=youtu.be>

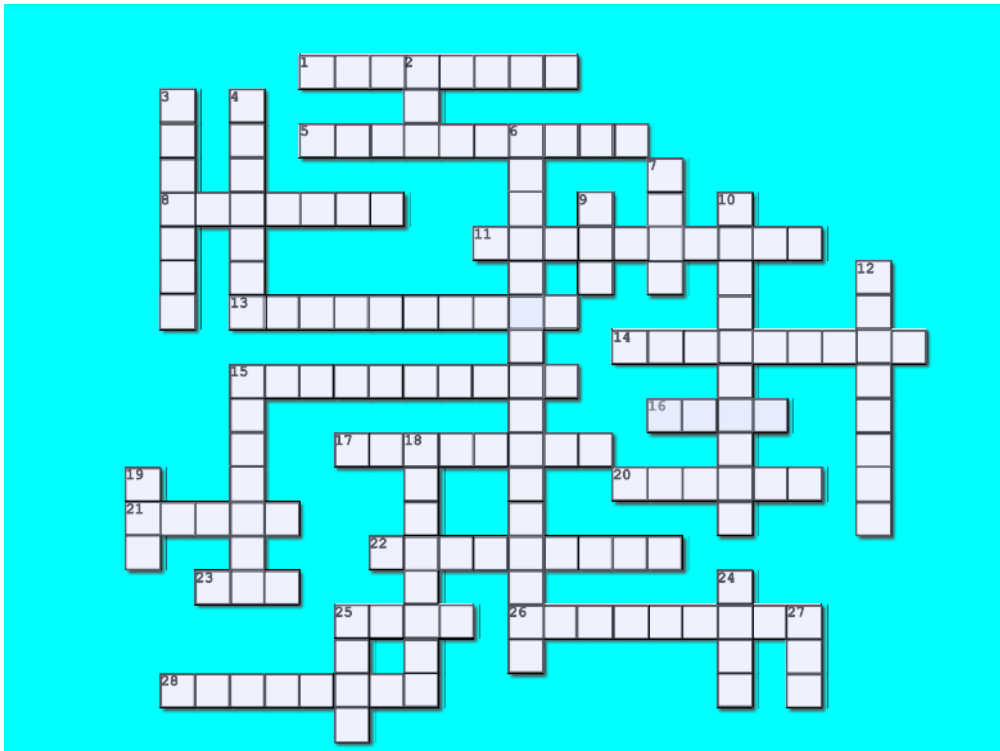
Training Videos

- ♦ [Console/Control Station Training](#)

Web Link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wsOIW0BCAQo&feature=youtu.be>

ISICS/ISICSB TRIVIA CROSSWORD

*** Click anywhere on the puzzle for a fillable version ***



Across

1. Nationwide wireless broadband communications platform dedicated to America's first responders and public safety community
5. ISICSB Committee that collaborates and develops the operational protocols and procedures for interoperable communications
8. Equipment used for "listening only" monitoring of radio communications
11. ISICSB committee that researches emerging technologies and standards to develop technical recommendations and procedures to enhance interoperable public safety and emergency communications
13. Means of providing se-

- cure communications
14. ISICSB committee comprised of authorized users, coordinates access and usage policies for use of or interfacing with the ISICS platform and public safety broadband systems (2 words)
15. End user radio
16. Call center responsible for receiving 911 calls and processing those calls to a specific operating policy
17. ISICSB Committee that builds coalitions to support and promote interoperable public safety and emergency communications by providing clear and pertinent information to stakeholders and decision makers
20. Group that develops, implements, and oversees

- policy, operations, and fiscal components of communications interoperability
21. A P25 radio platform for interoperability across the state of Iowa for public safety agencies
22. Two or more tower sites that act as one
23. Push-to-talk two-way communication between radio transceivers
25. Person who works with emergency response leaders across all levels of government to implement a statewide strategic vision
26. "Virtual" channel
28. Joining talkgroups or conventional channels

*** Answers on page 6 ***

Down

2. Trailers that are available statewide for multiple deployment operation types including events, training, and emergencies
3. Radio used by PSAP dispatcher
4. ISICSB committee that identifies potential funding streams and coordinates existing funds for interoperable communications priorities
6. The ability of public safety and public services personnel to communicate and to share data on an immediate basis, on demand, when needed, and when authorized
7. Governor appointed official responsible for working with the FirstNet Authority during consultation and the development of State Plans
9. Electromagnetic waves with the frequency range from 30MHz to 300MHz
10. ISICSB committee that develops and coordinates the policy and procedural operations of the ISICSB and ensures it functions within the law in a public and transparent manner
12. Technology for providing network access to multiple

- radios simultaneously
15. A communications program of the Department of Homeland Security that provides research, development, testing and evaluation, guidance, tools, and templates on interoperable communications-related issues to local, tribal, state, and Federal emergency response agencies
18. ISICSB committee that provides training opportunities on interoperable communications procedures for planned and unplanned events
19. Number of Homeland Security and Emergency Management regions in Iowa
24. Trained communications professionals that work to supervise and achieve efficient interoperability through incident planning
25. A guide that creates a single resource for all stakeholders and a unified approach for enhancing interoperable communications
27. Initiated by the Association of Public Safety Communications (APCO), a suite of standards developed to provide digital voice and data communication systems suited to public safety and first responders

ISICSB Contacts

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"When it comes to public safety, I listen to police chiefs and cops, not to a cable-news station."

~ Eric Garcetta, American politician

Recent News

*** Click [HERE](#) to view the March 2021 FirstNet Newsletter ***

FirstNet to Provide Backup for Iowa 9-1-1 Centers

The FirstNet public safety mobile broadband network will provide backup connectivity to Iowa 9-1-1 centers through an arrangement with Iowa Communications Network (ICN), a statewide fiber network. ICN provides connectivity to educational, healthcare and government facilities in the state, including providing primary connectivity to the 9-1-1 centers, also known as public safety answering points (PSAPs).

According to an ICN press release, the deal may serve as a model for similar deals between FirstNet and PSAPs in other states.

The FirstNet network is operated by AT&T, which won a contract to build the network several years ago that included access to dedicated spectrum to support the network. The carrier is allowed to use the network for its own commercial traffic when the network is not needed by the public safety community, but public safety traffic has priority on the network and can preempt other traffic if needed. The unique nature of the network would seem to make it an excellent choice for PSAP backup.

The ICN is a state agency that operates a statewide fiber network that reaches all 99 counties in the state. The deal with FirstNet was made through a partnership between ICN and Iowa Homeland Security & Emergency Management (HSEMD).

FirstNet 9-1-1 Backup

FirstNet backup connectivity is already available to 24 of 113 Iowa PSAPs and more are expected to be added. In the event that primary connectivity to any of those locations becomes unavailable, traffic will shift to the FirstNet network. This capability may be particularly important, now that the state's 9-1-1 system has begun sharing call answering equipment as a cost savings measure – an approach that PSAPs in many states are adopting. Iowa PSAPs' remote equipment is connected to the state's host equipment through the ICN.

"Adding FirstNet to the shared services environment helps ensure PSAPs continue to receive their

calls even if the primary ICN connection goes down," said Blake DeRouchey, 9-1-1 Program Manager for HSEMD, in a prepared statement. "The system setup provides a second, disparate connection to the 9-1-1 Network. At the end of the day, when someone calls 9-1-1, they expect to talk to a public safety telecommunicator 100% of the time. Our work with FirstNet makes that expectation more of a reality." The Iowa 9-1-1 deployment is unique for FirstNet in that it encompasses multiple sites and spans the entire state, the press release notes.

"There are smaller projects that are similar to what ICN has deployed, but overall from an implementation perspective, ICN's project is the largest of its type and is setting an example for other states," said Larry Ewert, Principal Architect with the FirstNet Program, in a prepared statement.

ICN Joins with FirstNet® to Deliver Backup Connections for Public Safety

Iowa Communications Network (ICN) is partnering with Iowa Homeland Security & Emergency Management (HSEMD) to use FirstNet, Built with AT&T as the backup connection for Iowa-based Public Safety Answering Points (PSAPs) providing 9-1-1 services to Iowans. FirstNet is the only nationwide, high-speed broadband communications platform dedicated to and purpose-built for America's first responders and the extended public safety community. ICN has deployed FirstNet LTE connections to 24 PSAPs, harnessing the robust capabilities of FirstNet and enabling emergency dispatchers to share critical information about the scene of an incident to first responders in a highly secure manner.

Currently, the ICN is used as the primary network provider for HSEMD and the 113 Iowa based PSAPs. In the event the primary traffic route for 9-1-1 calls is damaged, the 24 PSAP connections will reroute to the FirstNet network to wirelessly connect redundant routers back to the PSAPs. HSEMD and ICN are expected to add additional PSAPs with the same configuration in the future.

Read the full ICN & FirstNet Press Release [HERE](#).

New FirstNet Sites

- ♦ One new 4G LTE & HD Voice site has launched **SE of Creston in Tingley, IA**

Note from Iowa's FirstNet Authority Representative—Kevin Nida

FRNA – AT&T 4 Year Public-Private Partnership Anniversary with Federal oversight and investments strengthen FirstNet Nationwide Public Safety Broadband Network

This 4-year anniversary brings us into IOC-5 from March 31, 2021 to March 31, 2022. One year to go to our Final Operating Condition (FOC) in March, 2022!

From our Board Chair **Robert T. Osterthaler**,

"The FirstNet Authority has an important responsibility to advance the network for public safety and provide them with a world class communications experience. With this in mind, we directed investments to ensure public safety has access to 5G on the network based on our Roadmap. **The initial phase of 5G for FirstNet is here**, and we look forward to the ingenuity that the public safety community will surely apply to 5G-enabled technologies to help them protect and serve."

Since becoming operational, the FirstNet network has supported public safety in almost every type of emergency or incident, from hurricanes, floods, man-made events, and wildfires to coping with and confronting the COVID-19 pandemic. And public safety is taking notice — in February, AT&T announced more than 15,000 public safety agencies are using over 2 million connections on the network. FirstNet continues to expand, with AT&T recently saying it hit 90% deployment of public safety's dedicated spectrum.

[FirstNet Partnership Kicks Off Fifth Year. Brings Initial 5G Investment to FirstNet | First Responder Network Authority](#)

After Action Reports

From Doug Harder, Sr. Public Safety Advisor, Deployables
In the world of public safety, After-Action Reviews provide the opportunity to take an honest, objective look at what happened during an incident—the good, the bad, and the ugly. By reflecting on the successes as well as the challenges, first responders can ensure they are prepared for similar incidents or events in the future.

As broadband becomes more prevalent in public safety communications, we at the First Responder Network Authority (FirstNet Authority) are interested in hearing about and learning from your observations and experiences when you use FirstNet. That's why we offer the [After-Action Review \(AAR\)](#) program — a free service available to any FirstNet subscribing agency.

[After-Action Reviews Improve Broadband Experience for Responders Nationwide | First Responder Network Authority \(firstnet.gov\)](#)

Fire Service

First Responder Network Authority Fire & EMS Subject Matter Experts will be presenting on "Where We Are, and Where We Are Going with New Technologies" virtually during the Congressional Fire Services Institute (CSFI.org) virtual symposium April 27-29th, 2021. Click here to Register! [CSFI Symposium 2021 Seminars \(eventscribe.net\)](#)

Until next month!



Kevin R. Nida, Senior Public Safety Advisor - Fire Battalion Chief (Ret.)

First Responder Network Authority - Public Safety Advocacy Division

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FirstNet Media Mentions

March 8, 2021

- ⇒ [NTIA Seeks Nominations for FirstNet Board Positions](#) 5.03.2021 | (Mission Critical Communications)
- ⇒ [NVFC and Public Safety GPO Partner for Member Discounts](#) 5.03.2021 | (EMS World Magazine)
- ⇒ [Perception wars: AT&T slowly slides into third place](#) 5.03.2021 | (Light Reading)
- ⇒ [Zigbee inside the Mars Perseverance Mission and your smart home](#) 7.03.2021 | (Bestgamingpro)

March 9, 2021

- ⇒ [ADRF targets smaller facilities with new in-building public-safety repeater](#) 7.03.2021 | (Urgent Communications)
- ⇒ [What is FirstNet-and What Are the Benefits for Channel Partners?](#) 8.03.2021 | (Sponsored post on Channel Futures)
- ⇒ [Dejero Delivers Resilient Connectivity to Pilot COVID-19 Mass Vaccination Site in California](#) 9.03.2021 | (Broadcast Beat)
- ⇒ [FirstNet Cell Site Launches in Fort Benton, Mont. to Support Public Safety](#) 8.03.2021 | (Telecom Ramblings)
- ⇒ [AT&T : FirstNet Cell Site Launches in Hysham, Mont. to Support Public Safety | MarketScreener](#) 8.03.2021 | (Market Screener)

March 10, 2021

- ⇒ [Rugged Tablets: Always calling all cars in Troy, NY](#) 9.03.2021 | (Police1)
- ⇒ [Dejero GateWay Network Aggregation Systems Are Now Available for Use](#) 9.03.2021 | (CIO Review)

March 11, 2021

- ⇒ [AT&T Boosts Network in Indiana Ahead of March Madness](#) 10.03.2021 | (Telecom Ramblings)
- ⇒ [AT&T installing 5G at Lucas Oil Stadium ahead of Final Four](#)

10.03.2021 | (Indianapolis Business Journal)

March 12, 2021

- ⇒ [AT&T deploys Band 14 spectrum for FirstNet](#) 12.03.2021 | (Converge! Network Digest)
- ⇒ [ADRF launches new public safety repeater](#) 11.03.2021 | (CONNECTED REAL ESTATE MAGAZINE)

March 17, 2021

- ⇒ [T-Mobile, AT&T, Verizon to duel for 5G enterprise, business subscribers](#) 17.03.2021 | (ZDNet)
- ⇒ [AT&T Charts its Future in Mid-band Spectrum: Starting Now](#) 16.03.2021 | (AGL (Above Ground Level))
- ⇒ [Capitol Digest: Lawmakers discuss tax holiday, communications, traffic enforcement and more](#) 17.03.2021 | (The Daily Nonpareil)

March 18, 2021

- ⇒ [AT&T : FirstNet Cell Site Launches in Danbury, N.H. to Support Public Safety | MarketScreener](#) 18.03.2021 | (Market Screener)

March 19, 2021

- ⇒ [FirstNet® Supports Vaccine Distribution Efforts Across the U.S.](#) 18.03.2021 | (Telecom Ramblings)
- ⇒ [In a Year in Which Almost Everything Changed, AT&T Provided the Reliability Customers Needed](#) 18.03.2021 | (Telecom Ramblings)
- ⇒ [FirstNet Cell Site Launches in Danbury, N.H. to Support Public Safety](#) 18.03.2021 | (Telecom Ramblings)

March 22, 2021

- ⇒ [Battery-Charged Resilient Networks Act Forges Ahead](#) 22.03.2021 | (Inside Towers)

March 23, 2021

- ⇒ [Private Safety Network\(TM\) Earns FirstNet Verified\(TM\) Designation](#)

23.03.2021 | (websiteGear)

- ⇒ [NextNav: Vertical 911 Location Solutions Commercially Available Soon](#) 21.03.2021 | (TR Daily - Powered by Dow Jones)

March 24, 2021

- ⇒ [FirstNet Authority Receives Clean Financial Audit for 2021](#) 23.03.2021 | (Mission Critical Communications)

March 25, 2021

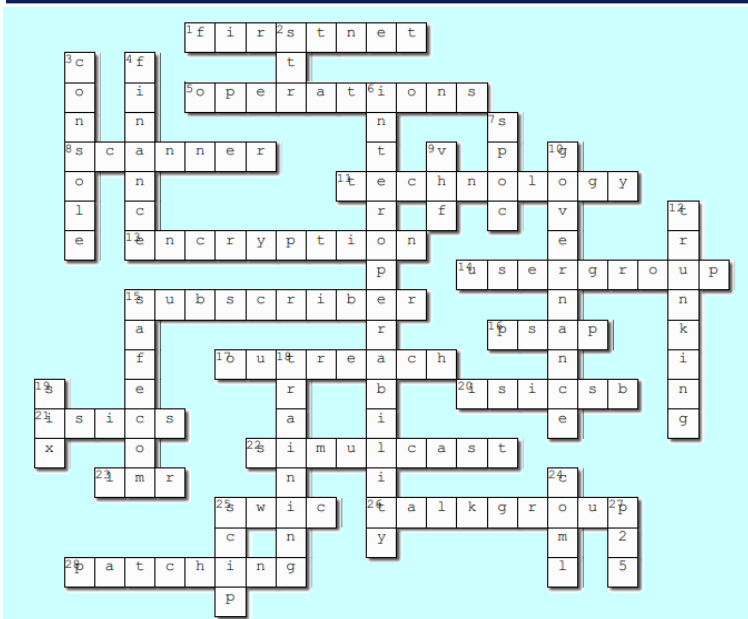
- ⇒ [The future of work is hybrid: why city and county workers need secure remote access](#) 24.03.2021 | (American City & County)
- ⇒ [FirstNet Cell Site Launches in Millinocket, Maine to Support Public Safety](#) 24.03.2021 | (Telecom Ramblings)

April 1-2, 2021

- ⇒ [AT&T upgrading FirstNet to 5G, adding encryption across network | The News Headline](#) 2.04.2021 | (The News Headline)
- ⇒ [FirstNet & 5G: An Experience Unlike Anything Else for America's First Responders](#) 2.04.2021 | (Telecom Ramblings)
- ⇒ [AT&T Announces Tower-to-Core Encryption](#) 31.03.2021 | (TR Daily - Powered by Dow Jones)
- ⇒ [AT&T Announces Three Major FirstNet Service Upgrades: Jason Porter Quoted](#) 1.04.2021 | (ExecutiveGov)
- ⇒ [FirstNet: Making First Responder Health & Wellness a Top Priority](#) 2.04.2021 | (Telecom Ramblings)
- ⇒ [Wireless Roundup \(April 2021\) | JD Supra](#) 31.03.2021 | (JD Supra)

April 5, 2021

- ⇒ [AT&T to Put FirstNet First](#) 5.04.2021 | (Inside Towers)
- ⇒ [Broadband players head to the White House](#) 2.04.2021 | (Politico)



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FirstNet Mission Statement

"The FirstNet mission is to deploy, operate, maintain, and improve the first high-speed, nationwide wireless broadband network dedicated to public safety. This reliable, highly secure, interoperable, and innovative public safety communications platform will bring 21st century tools to public safety agencies and first responders, allowing them to get more information quickly and helping them to make faster and better decisions."



Pulsara Application Overview

During the March 2021 FirstNet Broadband Committee, Assistant Chief of Logistics for the City of West Des Moines, Rob Dehnert, gave a presentation highlight the FirstNet Pulsara App. Pulsara is a mobile-first platform that enables clinicians to exchange patient-specific information through alerts, messaging, audio clips or video chat during time-sensitive emergencies, no matter the location or type of illness or injury.

It was developed by clinicians across the care continuum to improve the coordination and communication tasks essential to rapid assessment and care of patients suffering any time-sensitive condition. Pulsara is the only solution that entire regions can use to build a communication network between EMS (prehospital), in hospital (intrafacility) and between hospitals (interfacility) care teams. Pulsara provides a real-time communication network across an entire region. The Pulsara platform, built on the power of mobile technology, unites the right clinicians at the right time for the right patient – providing transparency and streamlined communication. Simply CREATE a dedicated patient channel. BUILD the team. And, COMMUNICATE using audio, video, instant messaging, data, images, and key benchmarks. Studies report an average decreased treatment time of nearly 30% when using Pulsara. Pulsara is the evidence-based standard of care. For more information, visit <https://www.pulsara.com>.

What is Pulsara?

Pulsara connects people when seconds matter. The Pulsara platform is a HIPAA-compliant, secure, easy-to-use app that unites the entire care team — even if they are in different departments or organizations (rural or urban)! By replacing multiple phone calls, radio reports, faxes, and pagers with one unified patient channel, care providers see reduced treatment times, reduced costs, and improve the lives

of both patients and caregivers.

Who Uses Pulsara?

Everyone — from EMS to urgent care to nursing homes, testing clinics, stroke teams, imaging, registration, standalone EDs, Public Health, and even FEMA Medical Operations Coordination Cells. Pulsara is built for any interaction a patient's care team may need along the care journey. Pulsara's solution is flexible to connect ANY and all members of the care team (rural and urban) — regardless of location or organization.

Why Pulsara?

Pulsara is the only communication network and mobile app which helps facilitate and streamline care coordination across inter-organizational care teams. No other solution enables geographically dispersed care teams to assemble and interact in real time across the care continuum through a single, centralized, and time-stamped source of truth for each case. Miscommunication in healthcare is a deadly problem that can't be solved by just connecting one part of the care team. Click [HERE](#) for more information.

What Does the Data Say?

33 minute Reduction	59% Decrease	25% Improvement	93% of cases
In door-to-needle time for stroke patients. See the full research poster here.	In average door-to-needle time for stroke patients receiving tPA. Read the case study here.	In cases meeting <90-minute D2B goal for heart attacks. Read the case study here.	meet the door-to-needle <60 minutes goal in stroke care. Read the case study here.

*** DISCLAIMER ***

The listing of the above app does not constitute an endorsement

FirstNet Deployables—Get Connected when you need it most



FirstNet deployables provide first responders with connectivity capabilities much like a cell tower. FirstNet dedicated deployables are mobile cell sites that link to FirstNet via satellite and don't rely on commercial power availability. They are for situations when rapid network restoration is needed. This can be a result of an emergency (such as a wildfire, earthquake, and natural or man-made hazard) or network outage.

- ◆ Can support both planned and unplanned events.
- ◆ SatCOLT LTE deployables support Band 14 and FirstNet Quality of Service, priority, preemption capabilities, non-preemptable satellite backhaul to the FirstNet Core.
- ◆ Provide voice (including Voice over IP, VoLTE), data, location and messaging.
- ◆ Deployables are supported within the 50 states, five territories and the District of Columbia

If a FirstNet Deployable is requested, triage may resolve the network issue and thus remove the need for support. The FirstNet Response Operations Group at AT&T, led by former first responders now working for the FirstNet Program at AT&T, will work with agencies to determine the appropriate asset or resolution – based on the situation. ROG identifies the quickest path to resolution for network Optimization.

- ◆ Deployables provide access to the FirstNet network for FirstNet subscribers only. They do not support other carriers or AT&T consumer service.
- ◆ Customers should have a Band 14 device and FirstNet SIMs to access service on a FirstNet Deployable.
- ◆ The minimum number of FirstNet users on scene should be 12, for a FirstNet Deployable to be activated.
- ◆ ROG will triage and diagnose the network prior to deployment.
- ◆ All FirstNet Customers may request a FirstNet Deployable

Please reference the guide to assist in requesting a FirstNet deployable asset [HERE](#).



FirstNet Resources

- ◆ [FirstNet Video—Connecting and Navigating EMS Through Traffic](#)
Web Link: <https://firstnet.gov/newsroom/videos/connecting-and-navigating-ems-through-traffic>
- ◆ [FirstNet Current & Future User Form](#)
READ MORE
Web Link: <https://isicb.iowa.gov/current-future-firstnet-users>
- ◆ [FirstNet Nationwide Coverage](#)
Web Link: <https://www.firstnet.com/coverage.html>
- ◆ [FirstNet & Your Local Radio](#)
Web Link: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=J2i3_HsVce4&feature=youtu.be
- ◆ [FirstNet App Catalog](#)
Web Link: https://www.firstnet.com/content/dam/firstnet/white-papers/2019_11_26_v1_FN_App_Catalog_Booklet_Full.pdf
- ◆ [FirstNet Checklist](#)
Web Link: <https://www.firstnet.com/content-dam/firstnet/marketing/pdf/Public-Safety-Communications-Checklist.pdf?LinkID=checklist>
- ◆ [FirstNet Frequently Asked Questions \(FAQ\)](#)
Web Link: https://isicb.iowa.gov/sites/default/files/documents/2019/06/firstnet_faqs.pdf
- ◆ [FirstNet in Iowa](#)
Web Link: <https://firstnet.gov/public-safety/firstnet-for-iowa>